

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 0517Z 311315Z
ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NEA-07 IO-06 L-01 DODE-00
CIAE-00 INR-05 NSC-05 SP-02 ACDA-10 NSAE-00 /054 W
-----021372 311325Z /47

P R 311133Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8632
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 0517Z

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: UNSC,IR,XF,LE,IS,MARR, PEPR
SUBJ: IRAN ACCEPTANCE OF U.S. OFFER OF AIRLIFT ASSISTANCE
FOR UNIFIL

1. IRANIAN CHIEF OF STAFF AZHARI TOLD ME EVENING MAY 30 THAT
IRAN WOULD TAKE ADVANTAGE OF U.S. OFFER OF AIRLIFT ASSISTANCE
IN MOVING HEAVY EQUIPMENT FOR ITS UNIFIL BATTALION TO SOUTH
LEBANON. HE SAID IRANIAN AIR FORCE C-130 AIRCRAFT WOULD
HANDLE MOST BATTALION ITEMS, BUT HEAVIER LIFT WAS NEEDED FOR
SUCH THINGS AS AMBULANCES.

2. AZHARI SAID IT WAS HIS INTENTION TO MOVE THE ENTIRE EQUIP-
MENT OF THE BATTALION TO LEBANON IN ORDER THAT THE
TROOPS WOULD BE ABLE TO DEFEND THEMSELVES IN CASE THEY ARE
ATTACKED. HE SAID THAT THEY ARE CURRENTLY NOT RPT NOT EQUIPPED
WITH ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS, BUT HE THOUGHT IT MIGHT
BE A GOOD IDEA FOR THEM TO HAVE THEM. HE ASKED MY
OPINION.

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3. I SAID THAT I FRANKLY DID NOT KNOW THE GROUND RULES
FOR UNIFIL EQUIPMENT, BUT I ASSUMED TABLES OF EQUIPMENT
WERE FIXED BY THE UN COMMAND AND THE MILITARY ADVISERS IN
NEW YORK. I SUGGESTED AZHARI CONSULT ON THE MATTER THROUGH
THOSE CHANNELS.
SULLIVAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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